



ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES

PREVENTION SERVICES

October 1, 2019

As we prepare for this upcoming school year, we would like to ensure that you have a copy of the most recent updates to the statutory requirements for Hearing/Vision Screenings for children. I have highlighted some of the changes that have been implemented for the upcoming school year:

Vision Screenings:

SB1456: Child Hearing and Vision Program. This bill requires vision screening of children in Arizona upon initial entry to school with two other subsequent screenings. Official rules have not yet been established under A.R.S. 36-899. We anticipate drafting the rules beginning in 2020. The screening rules will follow national guidelines, which will help ensure early detection and intervention of children with vision impairments.

- Anyone administering vision screenings are required to complete training through an approved ADHS Sensory Trainer. Non-certified individuals can perform a vision screening under the direct supervision of an ADHS certified screener.
- All public and charter schools are required to complete and report vision screenings by June 30th for each school year. Link is provided [ADHS Sensory Reporting Forms](#)
- Vision screeners will receive training on Evidence based tools that meet National Standards for AAPOS and National Center for Children's Eye Health (LEA charts, Sloan letter charts, and instrument-based screeners) and will receive a vision kit at the completion of the certification program. (One kit per school)
- The required grades will be determined once the rules have been written. However, we ask that you screen the same grade levels as hearing to be consistent for this year including children enrolled in special education services.
- Vision screening bill [SB 1456](#) effective 8/17/19.

Hearing Screenings:

- Anyone administering hearing screenings are required to complete training through an approved ADHS Sensory Trainer. Non-certified individuals can perform a hearing screening under the direct supervision of an ADHS certified screener.
- Hearing screeners will receive training on evidence based screening methods utilizing tools that meet National Standards for American Academy of Audiology (AAA).
- All schools are required to complete and report hearing screenings by June 30th for each school year on the AZDHS website. Link is provided [ADHS Sensory Reporting Forms](#)
- Hearing screening certifications will now be valid for 4 years along with completion of two CEUs per year.
- Hearing screenings Rules [9 A.A.C. 13, Article 1](#) became effective 7/3/19.

Please feel free to contact the Sensory Program at sensoryprogram@azdhs.gov